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Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017 | High 14°C/Low 2°C Isolated thunderstorms

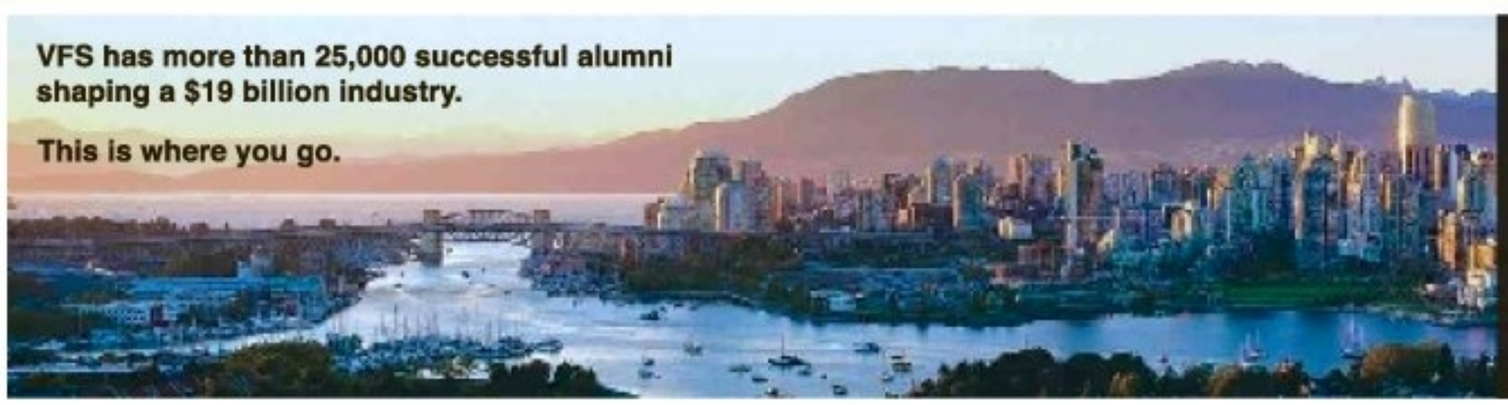
CHANTAL HÉBERT
There's no shelter from Trump's volatility, Trudeau learns
metroVIEWS

Troy Brouwer held down Antoine Vermette of the Ducks during Game 4 Wednesday night, but the Flames couldn't hold off Anaheim.
GERRY THOMAS/NHLI/GETTY IMAGES

FLAME OVER

Calgary swept out of playoffs after 3-1 loss to the Ducks metroNEWS.ca

More NHL playoff coverage metroSPORTS



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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Longtime Fox News host Bill O'Reilly given the boot amid harassment complaints. **World**

'New way' to view urban farming

AGRICULTURE

Groups want city to do more to understand rising industry

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Calgary's land use bylaws are getting a refresh. THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR

Imagine a Calgary where a vertical farm marketplace is your grocery store, a laneway food garden is cultivated by your neighbours or an urban farmer can sow their seeds on an abandoned parcel waiting for development.

Well, according to Kye Kocher, president of YYC Growers, a lot of those things are already happening in the city.

But these are ideas the city is planting for council's future consideration as a big step towards fulfilling the Calgary Eats! food action plan put into motion four years ago.

"We've drafted some themes on changes we'd like to suggest," said Laurie Kimber, city-wide planner with the City of Calgary. "We're working on those internally on how we'd make those work right now."

Kimber said the themes are oriented around households, small business and large business. If approved, these plans would allow, or clarify, several land use questions that may stop creative business people or local green thumbs from getting their hands dirty.

He said there's no current timeline on these ideas, but noted some of the city's land use rules would need to be changed to allow some of the provisions to be moved forward. "Right now, food growing in Calgary can only officially occur in the industrial area as a business," Kimber said. "We would allow it to get spread out in the city."

He added this would include aquaponics and aquaculture in the industrial districts.

"It's a new way at looking at growing food in Calgary," Kimber said.

Kocher said it's a good first step, but the city's already way behind the industry. He suggests working closer with urban farmers, who have been growing and producing local food for more than a decade to get a better sense of where the pinch points are.

"They need to incentivize businesses or homeowners to (support food security)," Kocher said. "They could have come up with more innovative things."

> **Right now, food growing in Calgary can only officially occur in the industrial area as a business. We would allow it to get spread out in the city.** Laurie Kimber

His group has been steadily growing clientele, and strives to serve 1,000 families this year with locally grown food through their harvest box program.

Ultimately approving changes to bylaws would fall into politician's hands. And Coun. Gian-Carlo Carra has been standing, waiting with his mind open on ideas like this for some time.

"Contrary to the idea that the city is a major barrier to food production in the inner city, I think the single biggest barrier to food production is just people who know how to do that work and are willing to do that work," said Carra. "Examining any particular possible regulatory barrier and removing it is an important leadership role for the city to play."

His family grew up in the city during a time when vacant lots were used as community gardens. Carra said citizens have lost some of those tactile skills in the space of a generation.

RULES

Households can do boulevard food gardening to utilize lost spaces. Things like raised beds, hot boxes and hoop tunnels are OK on your own land.

Small businesses can grow food in landscaped areas or vacant parcels whether privately, or city owned. This would especially be geared toward small plot intensity farming and their ability to grow food on multi-residential, or industrial lands as a partnership with a company.

Larger businesses could fall into a newly-created use called "food production" in the inner city commercial areas, not just the traditional industrial area.

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Crowchild Trail is getting major upgrades, including to the bridge over the Bow River. METRO FILE

A bridge park too far, maybe

CROWCHILD TRAIL

Councillors divided on idea for Calgary's own High Line

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Crowchild Trail will get a facelift over the coming years to bring the skeletal road into the next century.

But community members hope to see a little more innovation as the city plans major upgrades.

Two associations brought forward an idea to have greater connectivity in the Scarboro and Shaganappi communities, using the example of the High Line bridge in New York. They call it a land bridge park.

"Move this idea forward so that it can be studied in more detail," said community member Harvey Bernbaum. "I know it's a bold, strong and large idea."

He said that while it's hard to estimate costs at the moment, the High Line was financed by corporate money.

"It may be bold for Calgary but it's not bold for other cities," said Coun. Druh Farrell.

Coun. Ward Sutherland called the project interesting but said he has difficulties.

"I find it very challenging if there are any businesses that could justify any money to do it," said Sutherland. "I think one of the questions that will come up is … where are our priorities as funding comes and where do we have to go. Is the priority moving vehicles?"

Feisal Lakha, project manager for the Crowchild Trail study, felt the idea was neat but said putting Crowchild Trail in a tunnel didn't have a lot of value.

"In terms of policy considerations, what we found was there wasn't enough policy background to help us in terms of building a case towards a concept like the one brought forward," Lakha said. "Some of the things we did look at was trying to balance the technical requirement of a structure of this kind."

He said the communities are already well served by open spaces. They found the size of the structure posed a threat to properties along Crowchild Trail.

On Wednesday, councillors discussed plans for the short-, medium- and long-term future of Crowchild Trail from 17th Avenue S.W. to 24th Avenue N.W. Administration recommended that council approve the plans, which underwent a lengthy consultation process.

The city's plan passed unanimously.

ECONOMY

'Albertans first' hiring program gets praised

Alberta companies are being encouraged to hire locally for jobs in professions hit hard by the economic downturn.

Under the federal-provincial program, companies cannot apply to hire temporary foreign workers for 29 occupations.

The list includes engineering managers, contractors, machinists, plumbers, carpenters and oil-and-gas well drillers.

The governments say under the pilot project it will be easier for employers to recruit Alberta workers for jobs.

8.4%

Alberta's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate last month

As of December the province had the third-highest number of employment-insurance recipients in Canada — up 55 per cent from the same time in 2015.

The Alberta Construction Association praised the program.

"We believe in hiring Albertans first, Canadians next and foreign workers as a last resort," Chris Ambrozic, vice-president of the association, said Wednesday in a release.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Undercover officer struck accused's car to get closer

COURT

Police involved in operation take stand to explain roles

Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

A female undercover police officer laid the groundwork for a "Mr. Big" sting operation that allegedly led to a confession by a Calgary man accused of killing his common-law wife.

On Monday, Allan Shyback, 40, pleaded not guilty to one count of second-degree murder and one count of improperly interfering with human remains in the 2012 death of his common-law partner, Lisa Mitchell.

Police launched an undercover operation dubbed "Operation Aurora" in 2013 that ultimately resulted in the confession and arrest of Shyback, said the Crown.

None of the undercover officers who were a part of Operation Aurora can be named.

On Wednesday morning, an undercover female officer took the stand to explain her role in the operation that began with a set-up accident where she bumped Shyback's vehicle in a parking lot.

After exchanging information and eventually paying Shyback $1,000 for the damage to his vehicle at a second meeting, the two continued to chat over the phone and text message as the officer built a rapport with Shyback.

In the third face-to-face meeting with the officer, Shyback asked her out on a date.

"Although flattered, I indicated I was not interested as I had just got out of a bad relationship. I was caring for my ailing mother and was focused on work," she said. "He said he'd also had a bad relationship and understood."

Det. David Sweet of the Calgary police homicide unit told court he'd spoken with the accused twice.

The first was an interview with Shyback who was then considered a witness.

He detailed a rocky relationship between himself and Mitchell that including blow-up arguments with "pushing," stints of the two living separately and anxieties about trust and infidelity — he was aware she had multiple dating profiles online.

> **We believed there was evidence in the residence.**
> Det. David Sweet

"I'm one of five potential biological fathers for my son," Shyback said.

The day of his arrest, more than a year later, Sweet contacted Shyback by phone while he was with an undercover Calgary police officer in Winnipeg.

Sweet informed Shyback he'd taken over the case as their investigation had lead them to believe it was a homicide.

The detective told Shyback he wanted to meet with him to talk and that he would also need to search his Calgary home because he believed there was "information in the house that would help solve her murder."

Det. David Sweet (left) initially interviewed the accused, Allan Shyback, Jan. 29, 2013. Shyback was arrested more than a year later for the murder of Lisa Mitchell. CROWN

"That part was put almost into a script to introduce the sense of anxiety," said Sweet. "That he would need to go to the undercover police officer for some help because we believed there was evidence in the residence."

In their opening statement the Crown said Shyback confessed to strangling and burying Mitchell to an undercover officer.

Her decomposing and partially mummified body was later discovered by Calgary police in a plastic container that had been cemented in a makeshift tomb.

EDUCATION

Parents want new school

A group of Calgary parents from the Northern Hills communities are fed up with the lack of high school in their area as elementary schools continue to be built around them.

David Hartwick, vice-president of the Northern Hills community association, said historically high school kids from Northern Hills have had to attend three different schools in the city because they don't have their own.

Hartwick said their community feels that if they don't push to have a high school built it will never get built, and that the lack of high school is affecting the quality of life of high school kids in Northern Hills.

"It's the ability to work, or volunteer, or get help after school," he said, adding that students currently spend roughly 45 minutes each way travelling to one of three "far way" high schools.

The CBE said although they present Alberta Education with a capital plan each year they "don't decide what new schools are built or when this happens," and said that although they are pleased by new school build announcements and the promise of more annually, "it does leave others waiting for the announcement of a school in their community."

Alberta Education minister, David Eggen, said he has "certainly heard the need for a high school" in the Northern Hills district and wants them to know "I'm listening."

Eggen said his government makes their decisions based on school board capital plans and take into account things like enrolment, growth and regional need.

"There's no doubt that we're having to play catch-up after years of neglect, cuts and political game-playing by previous governments."

LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO

TRANSPORTATION

City in early stages of addressing traffic snarls on Barlow Trail

Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

If you've ever had trouble with traffic snarls in the area of 16 Avenue and Barlow Trail, the good news is that city is looking for solutions.

The bad news is, actual construction is still many years away, and has no secure funding.

An update to a functional planning study on roads in that area went to the transportation and transit committee on Wednesday.

The report looks at a large number of scenarios to better get traffic moving at Barlow Trail, and further east along 16 Avenue.

Previously, council approved plans for a tight diamond interchange at 19 Street NE, but wanted more details on possible designs for the interchange at 16 Avenue and Barlow Trail.

> **The proposal that's before us is much less costly.**
> Coun. Andre Chabot

The report included a detailed cost breakdown that calculated the value of time saved by drivers as compared to the cost of building the solution.

Coun. Andre Chabot noted that the most expensive option to maintain a free-flow interchange at Barlow Trail wasn't necessarily the most efficient.

He said Barlow Trail already has many lights, meaning a free-flow intersection won't necessarily improve traffic flow.

"The proposal that's before us is much less costly and way more effective for movement along Barlow as well as movement along 16 avenue," said Chabot.

Administration is looking to advance three options to candidate projects for Investing in Mobility funding. They include widening 16 Avenue NE from 36 Street NE to Stoney Trail, widening Barlow Trail from Memorial Drive to 16 Avenue NE, and building an interchange at 16 Avenue and 68 Street NE.

Three of the other interchange designs are going back for further analysis.

One of two potential interchange options the city is exploring for 16 Avenue and 68 Street NE. COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY

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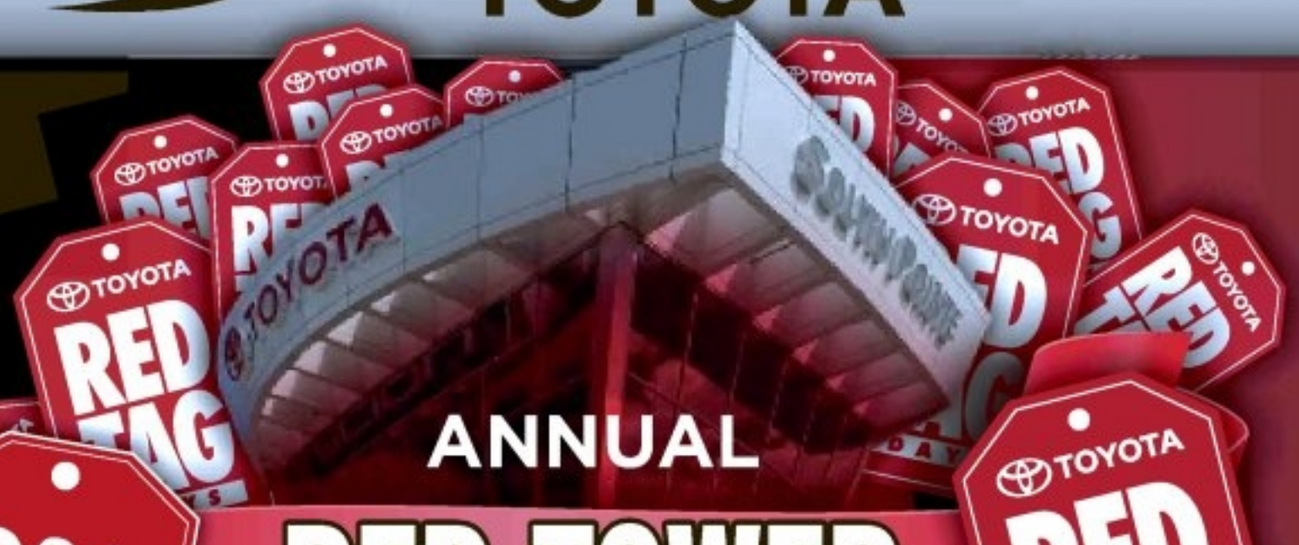

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AMVIC

Mayor Naheed Nenshi announced plans for the fourth annual Neighbour Day alongside students from Ernest Morrow School on Wednesday. ELIZABETH CAMERON/FOR METRO

Day takes on special meaning after fires

COMMUNITY

Celebration will be held 1 year after Fort Mac wildfires

Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

Neighbour Day was created to mark the devastating flood that hit Calgary in 2013, but this year, it's also celebrating provincial neighbours who pulled together during the Fort McMurray wildfires last spring.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi announced on Wednesday that Calgary's fourth annual Neighbour Day will be held on June 17. He asked Albertans to remember not only what our province has been through in recent memory, but how people came together in those tough times to help their fellow citizens.

"What we saw in the tens of thousands of people helping out strangers after the flood, what we saw last year after the wildfires in Fort McMurray — to me, that's what we celebrate and that's what we build with events like Neighbour Day," Nenshi said.

It's grown into a city-wide affair — 140 permits (with fees waived for the occasion) for block parties and use of city parks were issued last year, up from 40 in 2014.

"Have a party on your front lawn, bring the barbecue out and invite your neighbours — the goal should be, at the end of the day, to know all your neighbours phone numbers and emails," Nenshi said.

Calgary man David Plouffe, who lives in Signal Hill, attended a lawn party on his cul-de-sac last Neighbour Day and said this time around, he might venture out and get to know his neighbours from other parts of the city.

"Here in Calgary, with our long winters and so-so springs, (Neighbour Day) is a time for renewal. We've been locked up in our houses for a bit, so this is the time to say hi again," Plouffe said.

Nenshi said he didn't memories of the flood or wildfires to be focused on the devastation left behind.

"I thought rather than a just a solemn thing, we should have a celebration of the extraordinary the community spirit we saw," the mayor said.

"The strength and power of our community is not that these things happen, it's how we respond to it."

JUNE 17

The fourth annual Neighbour Day will be held on June 17 across Calgary.

Permit fees for large block parties or exclusive use of a park will be waived.

CRANE

Foothills Medical Centre construction ramps up

A crane being installed today at the Foothills Medical Centre (FMC) is likely to cause a few headaches for visitors.

The machine will aid construction of a new parkade that's being built to serve the FMC, the Tom Baker Cancer Centre and once built, the Calgary Cancer Centre.

Alberta Health Services (AHS) apologized on to the public on Wednesday for what could be a few days of inconvenient traffic in the hospital complex.

AHS said just three transport trucks for the large columns will be allowed on the site at any time and they'll be arriving via the West Campus interchange – in other words, use another other route to avoid traffic snarls.

Construction is supposed to wrap up by 2019, according to AHS.

METRO

LADDER FALL

Window washer in critical condition

Calgary EMS says a window washer fell from a ladder on Wednesday, and sustained life-threatening injuries.

EMS Paramedics responded to a multi-residential complex in the 500 block of 8 Avenue NE around 2 p.m.

They found a male, believed to be in his 30s, in critical condition. He was transported to Foothills Medical Centre with life-threatening internal and external injuries.

Bystanders told paramedics the man was working with a window-washing company working inside the building when he fell from a ladder onto a concrete floor.

Occupational Health And Safety has been made aware of the incident, according to EMS.

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Oilsands hit record gas use

ENERGY

Environment advocates say it's a 'waste' of cleaner fuel

Nearly one-third of the natural gas burned in Canada last year was used to produce crude from the oilsands, the country's energy regulator said Wednesday, something environmentalists called a "waste" of a cleaner-burning resource.

According to a National Energy Board report, nearly 2.38 billion cubic feet per day or a record 29 per cent of purchased natural gas was used for oilsands production in Alberta in 2016. That's up from the 730 million cf/d or 12 per cent of total demand in 2005.

Natural gas is used in the oilsands to generate steam to inject into underground formations to thin the heavy, sticky bitumen crude and allow it to be pumped to the surface.

The growth in so-called "thermal" projects is the main driver behind increased oilsands demand for natural gas, the NEB said.

Environmentalists said that natural gas could be better used to heat houses, generate electricity or make plastics.

"Rather than wasting this relatively low-carbon fuel to extract high-carbon oil from tarsands, let's use it to heat homes as we speed the transition to the 100 per cent renewable future that science demands," said Greenpeace campaigner Mike Hudema in an email.

Andrew Read, a senior analyst with the Pembina Institute, said the report highlights the need for a national energy plan that aligns use of energy with Canada's climate targets.

One third of natural gas burned in Canada was used to help produce crude oil from Alberta oilsands, according to new data from the National Energy Board. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"This is basically using our cleaner fossil fuel resources to produce dirtier transportation fuels," Read said.

> "This is basically using our cleaner fossil fuel resources to produce dirtier transportation fuels."
> Andrew Read

The NEB report said spot prices in Alberta for natural gas plunged to a record low 58 cents per gigajoule (about 55 cents per thousand cubic feet) on May 8 last year, when wildfires near Fort McMurray forced the shutdown of gas supply pipelines to oilsands projects.

But commodity analyst Martin King of GMP FirstEnergy in Calgary said the oilsands are not a significant influence on long-term gas pricing.

"Overall, gas demand outside of Alberta power generation and the oilsands isn't really moving anyway," he said.

He said Canadian prices for natural gas are influenced mainly by weather-related demand and production trends in the United States, Canada's largest export market. He said the average spot price last year in Alberta of $2.17 per thousand cubic feet was the lowest since 1998.

Canada's demand for natural gas is only about half of its production, now at more than 15 billion cf/d, and that output can be quickly ramped up if new demand arrives in the form of West Coast liquefied natural gas export facilities, King said.

The NEB said natural gas is also used in oilsands mining to heat water to separate bitumen from sand. Miners that upgrade bitumen into synthetic crude oil also use gas to produce hydrogen needed for that process.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

Police hunt for thief

A man police believe posed as an officer is on the loose after an alleged robberies in Calgary and Leduc, Alta.

According to police, officers were called to the 800 block of 12 Avenue SW after a robbery on March 25 at 5:50 p.m.

The man, and an unsuspecting woman were chatting online when they decided to meet.

When he arrived, it's alleged he opened up his jacket revealing a vest that read "POLICE" across the chest. He told her he was a police officer and took her debit card, cell phone, laptop and cash before fleeing the scene.

A similar incident also happened April 11.

After looking at CCTV images from both incidents, police have connected the suspect to a similar robbery in Leduc from March 26.

The man is described by police as "possibly being of Middle Eastern descent."

He's between 20 and 30-years-old and stands 5'7" to 5'8", he has a slim to medium build and black ear-length hair.

In all of the incidents he was wearing black pants, boots and sweater with a black vest or shirt.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at 403-266-1234. METRO

AIRPORT

Officials investigate pilot

Transport Canada and RCMP are investigating after a powered parachute pilot flew into air space used by Calgary International Airport.

Police say the man was seen flying on Monday night just north of the city limits.

Const. Dan Martin says the control tower called police to say the powered parachute was causing problems for planes that were trying to use the airport.

He says at one point the Calgary Police Service helicopter was called in to investigate, which prompted the powered parachute pilot to land.

Transport Canada says a powered-parachute usually consists of a flexible parachute attached to a frame that includes an engine and a propeller.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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FIRST NATIONS

Siksika leaders say they will take drug test

Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

Leaders of the Siksika First Nation announced Wednesday they will be going the extra mile to prove they walk the talk when it comes to living a drug-free lifestyle.

As part of the recently-formed Siksika Crime Prevention Team's (SCPT) mandate, Chief Joe Weasel Child and 12 Nation councillors have scheduled a voluntary drug test for April 24.

The SCPT is also in the middle of crafting bylaws and Band Council Resolutions (BCR) to further ebb the flow of illicit substances into their community – including one that could see drug traffickers banished from the reserve, located an hour east of Calgary.

Siksika Nation plans to banish drug traffickers

Coun. Marsha Wolf Collar, who brought the idea of a test forward, said leading by example isn't just for political show for the leaders, who were elected last November.

"If we as leaders are going to impose drug testing, we need to be examples by participating in drug testing. "This makes for a more competent and productive workforce," she said.

"As role models for the community, it's important to advocate wellness in the workplace – it needs to be a priority at all levels," Wolf Collar added.

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LINDA LARKIN

Princess Jasmine gets the royal treatment

Since 1992, Linda Larkin has voiced one of Disney's most confidant princesses: Jasmine, from the Aladdin franchise. Since the original movie, she's voiced the character in video games, cartoons and more.

Larkin lands her magic carpet at the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo on April 27-30.

What did you learn or create in the character of Princess Jasmine that wasn't immediately in the script?

Well — it's all in the script. I really do believe that. It was just there for me to play and explore with what they had already come up with. The interesting thing about playing this character for so many years — the character is in one place and time. For me, it's great being the original voice, because I know who she is. I know everything she's done, every word Jasmine has ever said. So the minute I see something new that they're creating for Jasmine, I know exactly what to do with it.

> **This was a really good job, and I didn't even know how good it was.**
> Linda Larkin

Linda Larkin voiced Princess Jasmine in the Aladdin franchise. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

What was the audition process like in getting cast as Jasmine?

It was a long process. I had many auditions over many months. There were many times where I wouldn't hear from them for a long time, and think, 'I guess I didn't get it.'

Then I would get a call and go see them again. I'd go in and there would be less people auditioning and more people watching the audition. I was like, wow, this was definitely getting narrowed down.

My last audition, it was just me. Nobody else there. And I was like, 'I might have this.'

I was very grateful for that. This was a really good job, and I didn't even know how good it was.

As someone who relies on their voice to make a living, what's your voice care plan?

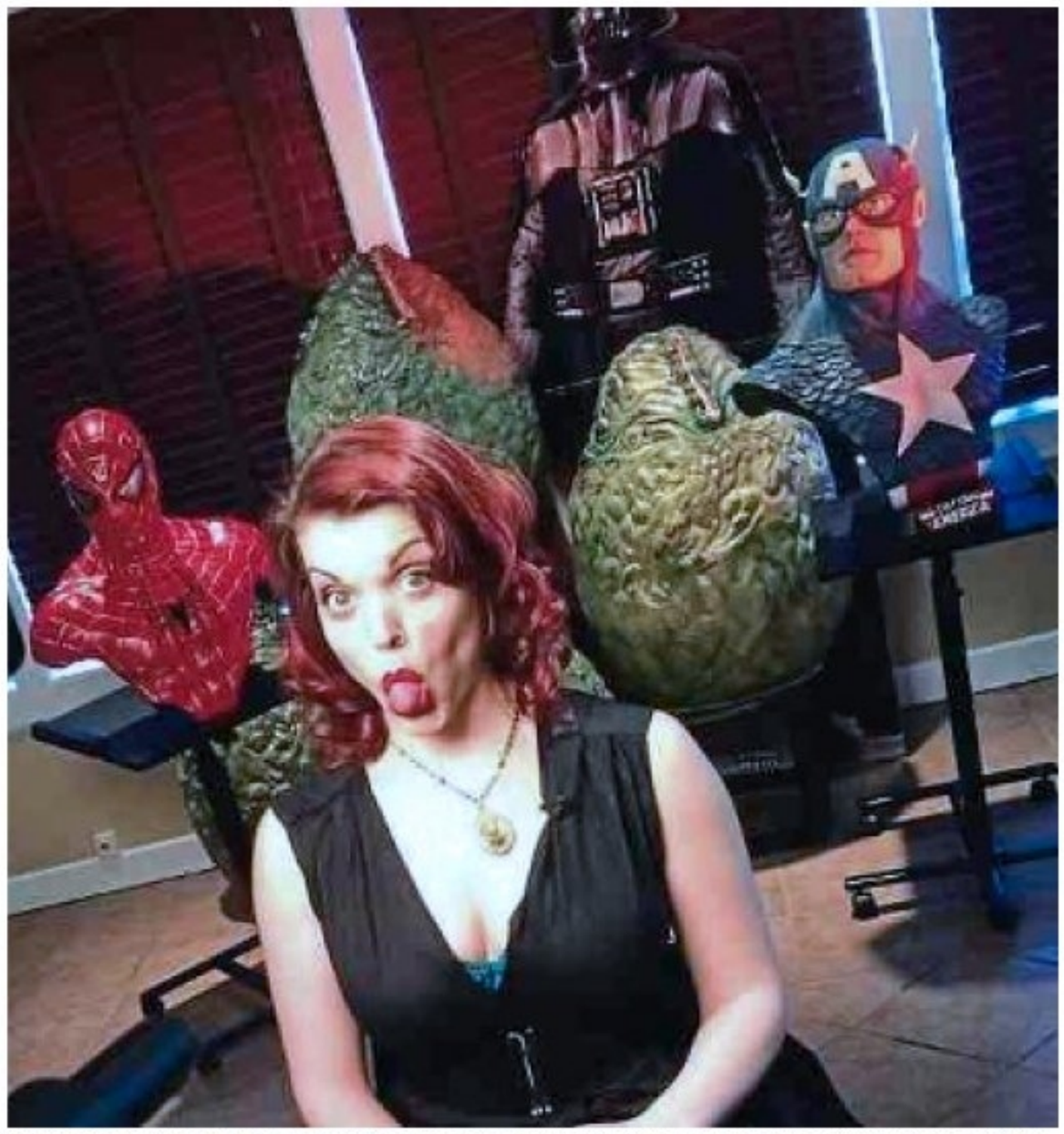
Right now, as I'm talking to you, I'm drinking Throat Coat Tea, which is my very favourite thing. I really work hard overall to be healthy, and keep my voice in good condition. Specifically, for my vocal chords, when I'm working, I won't drink, I won't go out to loud places, I'm drinking teas and I baby it. I take good care of it. AARON CHATHA/METRO

Expo exploration

POP CULTURE

All the panels, artists and parties you need to see

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary



Spokesperson **Emily Expo** encourages fans to dig around the corners of the Calgary Expo to find some unexpectedly neat stuff. COURTESY FACEBOOK

The Calgary Expo is more than just celebrities.

I mean, the celebrities are a big part of it, and have brought international recognition to the event, but spokesperson Emily Expo is reminding attendees that the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo has a lot more to offer than standing in line to meet John Cusack or Peter Capaldi.

The Panels

Running pretty much non-stop are the panels.

Some are going to have big draws, like when the Boy Meets World actors stop by to tell some stories, or Todd McFarlane answers some questions.

But then you can also spend an hour learning about creating cosplay armour, learning how to break into the comic industry or exploring questions like 'What if Batman had a good psychiatrist?'

Emily Expo recommends taking the kids to the Harry Potter potions class.

"It's essentially a science class, but don't tell the kids that it's under the guise of Harry Potter potions," she laughed.

Artists Alley

This is where you can find local artists, who either draw for fun, or might be the next big thing in comics a few years from now.

"It's really interesting to go through the local artists and see what they've created in the past year," Expo said. "You just find some really great stuff in that area."

> **You just find some really great stuff in that area.**
> Emily Expo

Artists are creating everything from drawings to dolls to replica weapons and armours. These are true enthusiasts.

After Party

There's the big Cosplay Contest that takes place Saturday afternoon, but the Expo is also sponsoring two big after-events this year.

On the Friday, there will be a party at Cowboys with James Marsters — that's Spike from Buffy the Vampire Slayer, who will be playing with his band.

Then on Saturday night there will be a live recording of the Jay and Silent Bob Get Old podcast, with Kevin Smith and Jason Mewes.

For more information on the panels, after-events and more, check out www.calgaryexpo.com.

MARA WILSON

Matilda star talks fears and phobias

Mara Wilson, known for her childhood roles in Matilda and Mrs. Doubtfire, is afraid.

She's afraid of slipping and falling, staircases, driving in L.A., corporate mascots, rollercoasters, being naked in public, germs, getting nauseated, snakes and spiders, losing control, losing friends and family, and death.

"There's the big ones and there's the little ones," she explained. "Like snails. I think snails are incredibly creepy."

But you know what Wilson is not afraid of? Standing up for child actors.

Appearing at this year's Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo, Wilson will be meeting fans, answering questions and talking about her new book, Where Am I Now?, which she describes as an explanation to what happened between the IMDB entries.

Although Wilson does the odd short film, guest appearance or voice acting role, for the most part, she's left acting behind. Although she acknowledges it's not the same for every child actor, for her, the experience left some scars.

"They're given a completely different set of values," Wilson said. "Instead of being told, we love you for who you are, they're saying, we love you for your performance. For your cuteness. They're loving you for things that are inevitably going to change or fade as they get older."

She said puberty becomes a very difficult time — moreso than for most teenagers — as questions like 'Am I ugly?' redefine how you've been raised and made a livelihood since a young age.

It's a strange situation, and Wilson doesn't dump the onus on the public — regulations need to be made in the industry, and parents of child actors need to be made aware. Otherwise, you end up with an adult with severe low self-esteem, which could lead to other, serious problems.

But Wilson isn't always a serious person. Quick-witted, she also fills her book with comedy, essays and happy stories. She's written for Cracked, Reductress and hosted a stage show all about fears and phobias.

The Calgary Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo runs April 27 to 30. AARON CHATHA/METRO

Mara Wilson is best known for her childhood roles in Mrs. Doubtfire and Matilda. COURTESY ARI SCOTT

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Dancing teapots and other spectacles

SHOW

Decidedly Jazz goes decidedly vaudeville

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Vaudeville is like the best kind of variety show.

Reaching its peak in the 1920s, organizers threw everything and anything on stage for the delight of the audience.

Decidedly Jazz Danceworks is embracing that model wholeheartedly with their newest show, appropriately titled Modern Vaudevillians.

"We wanted to do something celebratory," said artistic director Kimberly Cooper. "It's our first year in the new space, and part of what the space affords us to do is invite collaboration."

Those collaborations include master puppeteer Peter Balkwill and Troy Emery Twigg, director of Making Treaty 7.

And it's going to be a wild time.

The variety shows include a piece where everyone on stage is just a different personality in one dancer's mind, who eventually manifest into a monster.

Another one is about cats, with a main character who starred in the musical Cats.

Yet another takes us backstage behind the vaudeville performance, exploring the characters on the sidelines, "from the janitor, who's mopping the stage and decides to get in on the action, to the stage manager bossing everyone about, to the diva and the dancer who wants to steal the show," excitedly explained performer Catherine Hayward.

But perhaps the most exciting piece is a frenzy directed by Cooper herself, featuring teapots, lions, conjoined twins and a lion tamer who spends his stage time whipping an aerial artist who flips and twists above the floor.

Hayward gets to wear a very impressive-looking teapot head — pulling off some crazy moves without being able to see up, down or on either side.

"I definitely rely on the other dancers to help me out," Hayward laughed. "Shane picking me up — he reaches out and grabs me, so I rely on them (the other dancers) to make sure I'm in the right place."

The show runs from April 20 to May 6. For more information, visit decidedlyjazz.com.

Decidedly Jazz's newest show Modern Vaudevillians throws as much fun on stage as possible. AARON CHATHA/METRO

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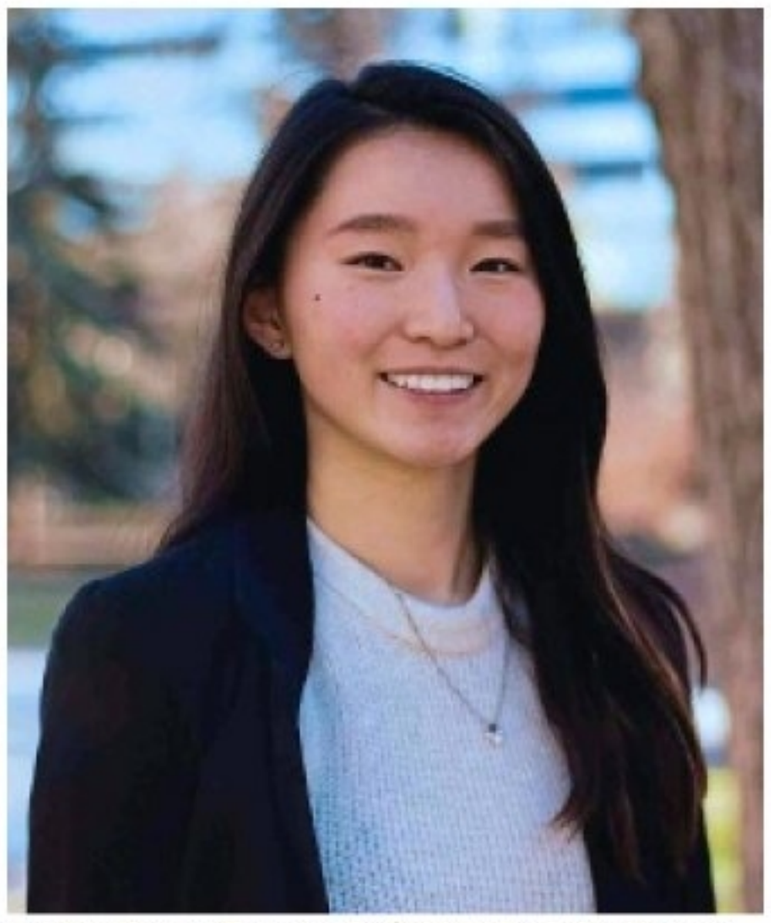

Hui Wen Zheng will receive the $100,000 scholarship over the course of four years. CONTRIBUTED

Local student selected to be Loran scholar

EDUCATION

17-year-old among 45,000 applicants for 33 scholarships

Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

A Western Canada High School student is one of six Alberta students chosen from nearly 4,500 applicants for 33 available Loran Scholarships — valued at $100,000 over four years.

Loran scholars are chosen based on evidence of character, commitment to service in the community and long-term leadership potential — all things 17-year-old Hui Wen Zheng embodies.

Zheng's resumé includes being an editor for a community youth blog, being a member of the Calgary Mayor's Youth Council and, the one she is most proud of, founding the Culture Club at Western.

"It's about promoting the diverse culture at Western Canada and really celebrating that," she said.

Zheng said that coming to Canada from China at age seven and feeling uncomfortable about her diversity inspired her to make change.

"I'm an immigrant, which is quite significant to my journey," she said. "I've received nothing but support from my schools and that's meant a lot to me."

The day Zheng found out she'd been selected as a Loran scholar she said she was a bundle of nerves all day, but after getting the call in the evening she was over the moon.

After sharing the news with her parents, they shared a touching moment.

"We were just gathered in a group hug for a long time," she said.

> **I'm an immigrant, which is quite significant to my journey.**
> Hui Wen Zheng

Next year Zheng will attend the University of Toronto where she will study social science, with the goal of a combined degree in political science and international affairs.

Zheng encourages others to apply for scholarships, even if they think they're out of reach.

"Unexpected things happen. It's only a couple of minutes and it can change your life."

OPINION

Survey spills on province's trust issues

Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Albertans are the least likely to trust Justin Trudeau and most likely to trust energy and pipeline companies, according to a new survey.

The 2017 Environics Communications CanTrust Index, released Wednesday, asked Canadians to rank how much they trust various politicians, industries and institutions, and found Alberta out of step in several areas.

"There's a big difference there, and perhaps not surprising," Environics senior vice-president Josh Cobden said of Albertans' thoughts on the prime minister. "The Trudeau name, for many people in Alberta, will forever be connected to the National Energy Program of his father."

On a seven-point scale, less than 30 per cent of Edmontonians and Calgarians said Trudeau is "very" or "somewhat" trustworthy to do what's right for Canadians. The national average was 44 per cent.

When it comes to energy and pipeline companies, the roles reversed, with about 40 per cent of Albertans considering them trustworthy compared to a 26 per cent national average.

Big-city Albertans are sharply divided when it comes to Premier Rachel Notley.

In Edmonton, 35 per cent said they trust their premier, compared to 21 per cent of Calgarians.

Across Canada, 30 per cent of Canadians said they trust their respective premier.

In the workplace, Calgarians were the most likely in Canada to trust their CEO or most senior boss, at 62 per cent versus a national ranking of 51 per cent.

While Western Canada skews cynical, Cobden said the overall results show Canadians buck global trends by being more optimistic, hopeful and trusting.

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Clean-tech industry growing sluggishly

ENVIRONMENT

Feds too slow on investment, report warns

Growth in Canada's clean tech industry has slowed to the point that the sector could miss out on billions in revenue and thousands of new jobs without urgent government action, according to a report published Thursday.

Celine Bak, president of Analytica Advisors, a firm in Ottawa that monitors the industry and published the report, said investments to boost clean tech in the 2017 budget aren't moving fast enough. Without quick access to capital, many of the biggest players in Canada's $13-billion clean tech sector will fall behind global competitors, Bak said.

"There's an urgent need for the money you've proposed to be deployed," said Bak, referring to the Liberal government's 2017 budget pledge of $1.8 billion over three years for clean tech financing.

None of that money, however, is slated to roll out this year.

"It's back-end loaded and the need is really short term," Bak said. "That's not going to be sufficient, especially for the biggest firms that are in very competitive global markets, where we're talking about weeks — not months — as a timeline that needs to be executed upon."

> **There's an urgent need for the money you've proposed to be deployed.**
> Celine Bak

The industry includes more than 850 firms in Canada that employ 55,200 people, the report says. These companies range from those working on more efficient power grid technology and cleaner ways to dig for oil, to recycling, transportation and agriculture.

The 2017 Canadian Clean Technology Industry Report, released Thursday, paints a picture of an industry that is still growing, but at a slower rate than previous years. Revenues in the sector jumped 8 per cent from 2014 to 2015, while they grew at around 11 per cent per year from 2011 to 2013.

But profits retained by clean tech companies in Canada continue to drop, and the report says "the industry is awash in red ink and shareholder returns are negative." This includes companies working on low-carbon transportation, which have seen five straight years of negative returns in a developing sector that is vital in the push to meet Canada's global emissions targets for 2030, according to the report.

At the same time, the report says Canada's global market share in clean technology dropped 12 per cent from 2008 to 2015, when it stood at 1.4 per cent. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NEWFOUNDLAND ONLOOKERS FLOCK TO FERRYLAND FOR GLIMPSE OF ICEBERG A large iceberg is visible from the shore in Ferryland, an hour south of St. John's, N.L., on April 10. A towering iceberg stationed off Newfoundland's east coast is drawing dozens of people to the small shoreline community sitting in its shadow. PAUL DALY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

IMMIGRATION

Refugees crossing from U.S. still on rise

The number of asylum seekers caught crossing illegally into Canada continues to rise, according to newly released figures.

The Canada Border Services Agency says that nearly half of the 1,860 migrants who have snuck across the Canada-United States border on foot rather than making a claim for refugee status at an official border crossing did so in March.

In total, 887 people were intercepted by the RCMP crossing the border last month, up one-third from the 658 who were arrested in February and more than double the 315 caught crossing in January.

In a statement, Public Security Minister Ralph Goodale's office said that while the figures have risen, they are still relatively small and have not affected other aspects of the immigration system.

"Canadian authorities are managing the increase in asylum seekers in a sound and measured way, applying our laws and procedures to keep Canadians safe while fully respecting all of this country's international obligations," the statement said.

The rise in asylum seekers crossing the border illegally continued to be the most spectacular in Quebec, which has become Ground Zero for worried migrants fleeing the threat of harsh new immigration policies and an uptick in deportation activities in the United States.

But numbers of asylum seekers crossing into Manitoba showed signs of levelling off, with only 170 RCMP interceptions, compared to 142 in February. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAIRY INDUSTRY

'Don't point the finger to Canada'

Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
Metro | Winnipeg

After a pointed shout-out from President Trump Tuesday, Manitoba dairy farmers fired back, calling his comments about Canadian dairy farming "very unfair" in their own right.

At a speech in Wisconsin, Trump criticized the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and blamed Canada for "some very unfair things (that) have happened to our dairy farmers."

David Wiens, a third-generation dairy farmer who lives and works near Grunthal, Man., said Trump's claims are "certainly not fact."

Wiens, also the chairperson of Dairy Farmers of Manitoba, said dairy imports from the U.S. into Canada have increased 17 per cent in the last year.

He emphasized Canada's domestic dairy policy doesn't affect international trade.

Lisa Dyck, a dairy farmer and ice cream producer with Cornell Creme near Anola, Man., said she was confident the Canadian government would stick by its dairy producers. She said Trump's comments didn't concern her.

"I think he just says a lot of things without thinking of the consequences," Dyck said. "I think it's great that he's behind his farmers — he should be. But he needs to look at this as a whole."

"In the end, we're all farmers. We understand. We are sad that they don't have a place for their milk, but we didn't do this … (so) don't point the finger to Canada," she said.

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BASHA FOODS INTERNATIONAL bashafoods.ca *Prices in effect April 20 - April 30*

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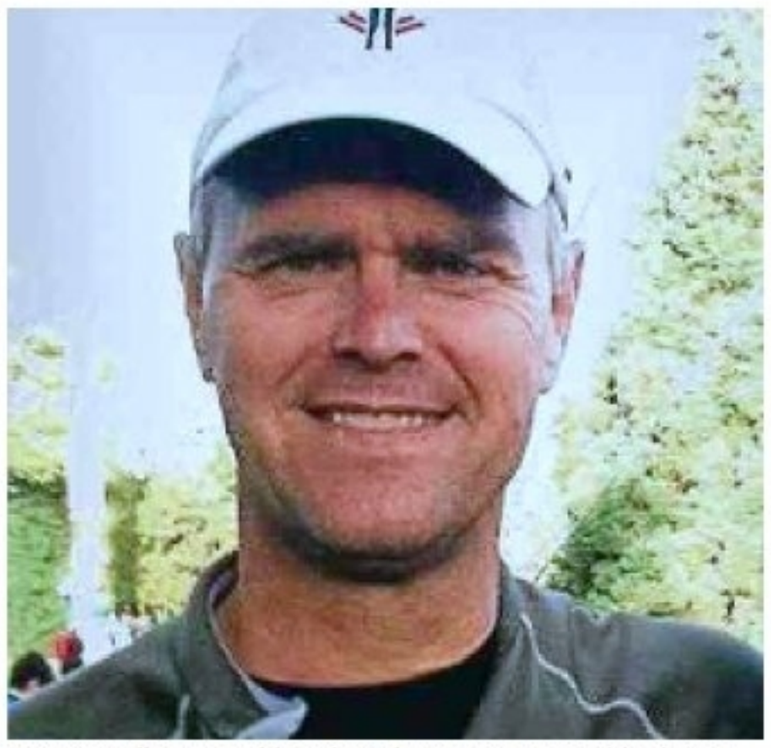

Investors allege Harold Backer, above, ran a pyramid scheme with their money. Below: Backer and Henry Hering compete in the men's coxless pairs rowing event at the 1992 Summer Olympic Games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Investors sue ex-Olympian

LAWSUIT

Rower Harold Backer went missing for 18 months

An investment dealer and former Olympic rower who disappeared for nearly 18 months faces a civil lawsuit from investors alleging he ran a pyramid scheme with their money.

A notice of civil claim was filed in Duncan, B.C., on July 7, 2016, on behalf of six people who say they were Harold Backer's clients. It names Backer, his former employer Investia Services Financiers Inc., and a private investment firm operated by Backer, My Financial Backer Corp., as defendants.

The suit filed in B.C. Supreme Court claims damages for breach of contract, negligence and fraud "arising from an unauthorized, fraudulent, pyramid or 'Ponzi' scheme operated by the defendants, Backer and MFB (My Financial Backer Corp.) with funds received from the plaintiffs."

The suit claims damages for negligence against Investia, which employed Backer since 2005 but terminated his employment after his disappearance.

Backer, 54, told his family on Nov. 3, 2015, he was going for a bike ride but never came back, police said.

Backer appeared at Victoria Police Department headquarters on April 14. He was charged with two counts of fraud over $5,000.

The three-time Olympian appeared in court on Tuesday and was remanded until May 2.

None of the allegations in the civil or criminal cases have been proven in court.

The civil suit names Anthony Carr, Mary Carr, Leslie Carr and Brian Carr as the plaintiffs, as well Mary Carr, the executrix of the estate of Anna Peach, who is deceased.

The suit does not include a damage amount, but seeks restitution and interest "for all funds delivered by the plaintiffs to Backer and MFB."

Backer has yet to file a response to the civil suit and the lawyer who represented him in court on Tuesday could not be reached for comment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TORONTO

Police union wants Pride funding pulled

The union representing Toronto's police officers is urging the city to pull an annual grant to Canada's largest Pride parade after the event banned police floats.

In an open letter released by the union Wednesday, a committee representing LGBTQ officers in the force said it would be unacceptable for the city to give the roughly $260,000 grant to an event that excludes certain municipal employees.

The committee said officers would feel completely devalued and unsupported by the city if the funding continued.

In January, Pride Toronto adopted a list of demands issued by the Toronto chapter of Black Lives Matter, including banning police floats from the parade.

Members of the anti-racism group held a sit-in part way through the parade last July, stopping it from moving forward for about a half hour, until Pride organizers signed the list of demands.

Black Lives Matter said it opposed police presence in the parade because it could discourage marginalized communities from participating.

About a month after Pride Toronto's ruling, Toronto's police chief announced the force would not be participating in the annual event this year, citing divisions within the LGBTQ community as a key motivator.

The issue of police participation in Pride parades has also emerged in other Canadian cities in recent months.

The Vancouver Pride Society has asked officers in that city to show up in fewer numbers and without their uniforms at the request of the local chapter of Black Lives Matter.

Halifax police have also announced they would pull out of the city's Pride parade this year in light of the "national debate" about law enforcement participation in such events.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bill O'Reilly ousted by Fox

BROADCAST

Allegations of harassment and payouts brought to light

Bill O'Reilly THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bill O'Reilly has lost his job at Fox News Channel following reports that five women had been paid millions of dollars to keep quiet about harassment allegations.

21st Century Fox issued a statement Wednesday that "after a thorough and careful review of the allegations, the company and Bill O'Reilly have agreed that Bill O'Reilly will not be returning to the Fox News Channel."

He had been scheduled to return from a vacation next Monday. It marks a stunning end to a near-perfect marriage between a pugnacious personality and network. For two decades, O'Reilly has ruled the "no spin zone" with cable news' most popular show, and his ratings had never been higher.

In a memo to Fox staff on Wednesday, the Murdochs said the decision followed an extensive review done in collaboration with an outside counsel.

Fox said that Tucker Carlson's show would move to 8 p.m. to replace O'Reilly and that the panel talk show The Five would take Carlson's time slot at 9 p.m.

The fast-moving story took shape with an April 2 report in The New York Times that five women had been paid a total of $13 million to keep quiet about unpleasant encounters with O'Reilly, who has denied any wrongdoing. Dozens of his show's advertisers fled, even though O'Reilly's viewership increased. O'Reilly has denied wrongdoing.

Even though at least one of the harassment cases against O'Reilly dated back more than a decade and was widely reported then, the accumulation of cases outlined in the Times damaged him much more extensively. It wasn't clear when those stories would end, with a group of women demonstrating in front of Fox's headquarters Tuesday and another woman, a former clerical worker at Fox, calling a harassment hotline and accusing the host of boorish behaviour.

"I'm not going away," said Lisa Bloom, attorney for the latest accuser and another woman who alleges her career stalled because she spurned O'Reilly's advances. "My phone is ringing off the hook."

O'Reilly's attorney, Marc Kasowitz, charged that his client was being subjected to a "brutal campaign of character assassination" and that there is a smear campaign orchestrated by far-left organizations bent on destroying O'Reilly for political and financial reasons.

O'Reilly's fans aren't likely to be happy about him losing his job, particularly on a controversy set in motion by the Times. His show's viewership increased the week after the story appeared — O'Reilly didn't address it on the air — and has sunk since he left for vacation. Potential successors like Dana Perino, Eric Bolling and Greg Gutfeld have substituted for O'Reilly since he left for vacation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VENEZUELA THE 'MOTHER OF ALL MARCHES' A demonstrator walks along a barricade set up during opposition protests in Caracas, Venezuela, on Wednesday. Opponents of President Nicolas Maduro called on Venezuelans to take to the streets on Wednesday for what they dubbed the "mother of all marches" against the embattled socialist leader. Government supporters are holding their own counter demonstration. FERNANDO LLANO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

McDonald's order trips up Facebook slaying suspect

Facebook slaying suspect Steve Stephens was undone by a 20-piece Chicken McNuggets and an order of fries.

The man who police say shot a Cleveland retiree at random and posted video of the killing on Facebook was recognized by the drive-thru attendant of a McDonald's restaurant outside Erie, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday morning.

The worker called 911, and state police gave chase. It ended a few miles away when police bumped Stephens' car to get it to stop. Authorities say Stephens then shot and killed himself.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INAUGURATION

Huge indeed: $107M in donations

It was huge. Big money from billionaires, corporations and a roster of NFL owners poured into Donald Trump's inaugural committee in record-shattering amounts — to pull off an event that was lower-key than previous inaugural celebrations.

That leaves a bit of a mystery: What the $107 million was spent for and how much was left over — the excess, if any, to go to charity. It also raises a new round of questions about the influence of money in politics, this time for a president who promised to "drain the swamp" of Washington.

Contribution records from Trump's inaugural committee, released Wednesday by the Federal Election Commission, show the president who railed against the corrupting influence of big-money donors was only too willing to accept top-dollar checks for his swearing-in festivities.

Trump's total take was about double the previous record set by Barack Obama, who collected $53 million in contributions in 2009, and had money left over to spend on the annual Easter egg roll and other White House events. Trump's top inaugural donor was Las Vegas gambling billionaire Sheldon Adelson, who gave $5 million. He and his wife came away with prime seats for Trump's swearing-in ceremony on Jan. 20 and gained access to a private lunch with the new president and lawmakers. Phil Ruffin, another casino mogul and close friend of Trump, was among dozens of donors who gave $1 million each.

At least eight NFL team owners kicked in big money for the inauguration. Seven of them, including Patriots owner Bob Kraft, whose team won the Super Bowl and visited the White House Wednesday, gave $1 million apiece.

Trump plans to name the New York Jets' Woody Johnson, one of those million-dollar donors, to be the country's ambassador to the United Kingdom.

Asked whether the president feels conflicted about his committee accepting so much corporate and wealthy donor money, spokesman Sean Spicer said that financing the inaugural is "a time-honoured tradition" and there are "a lot of people who really take pride in helping us show the world a peaceful transformation of power."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israel: Assad still has chemical weapons

Syrian President Bashar Assad has denied using chemical weapons against his own people. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILITARY

Syria president has 'one to three tons' left say officials

Syria still has up to three tons of chemical weapons, Israeli defence officials said Wednesday in the first specific intelligence assessment of President Bashar Assad's weapons capabilities since a deadly chemical attack earlier this month.

The estimate came as the head of the international chemical weapons watchdog said laboratory tests had provided "incontrovertible" evidence that victims and survivors of the April 4 attack in northern Syria were exposed to sarin nerve gas or a similar banned toxin.

Israel, along with the United States and much of the international community, has accused Assad's forces of carrying out the attack, which killed at least 90 people, including dozens of children.

A senior Israeli military official said Israeli intelligence believes Syrian military commanders ordered the attack, with Assad's knowledge. Briefing reporters, he said Israel estimates Assad still has "between one and three tons" of chemical weapons.

The assessment was confirmed by two other Israeli defence officials. All the officials spoke on condition of anonymity under military briefing rules.

Assad has strongly denied he was behind the attack in the opposition-held town of Khan Sheikhoun in Syria's northern Idlib province, and has accused the opposition of trying to frame his government.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POLITICS

May's call for snap U.K. election backed

British voters will be heading to polling stations for the third time since 2015, after lawmakers overwhelmingly supported Prime Minister Theresa May's call for a snap election on June 8.

The parliamentary election comes less than a year after Britain voted to leave the European Union, and will likely be dominated by the political and economic upheaval spawned by Brexit.

May, who took office in July after an internal Conservative Party leadership race, wants the election to increase her majority in Parliament and consolidate her power as she faces both pro-EU opposition politicians and hard-core Brexit-backers inside her own party.

Lawmakers voted Wednesday by a resounding 522 to 13 to back May's call for an election, easily surpassing the two-thirds majority in the 650-seat House of Commons needed to trigger an early vote. May wasted no time, going from the vote in Parliament to kick off her campaign with a speech in to supporters northwestern England.

She said the Conservatives would provide "strong and stable leadership" for Brexit and beyond, and promising to wage "a positive and optimistic campaign." Earlier, May said holding an election in June, rather than as scheduled in 2020, would "deliver a more secure future for our country" as it negotiates its departure from the EU.

Now that lawmakers have approved the election, parliament will be dissolved at midnight on May 2, 25 working days before election day.

The opposition Labour Party and Liberal Democrats welcomed the chance to put their policies to voters, though the Scottish National Party called the election a cynical political ploy. Its lawmakers abstained during Wednesday's vote.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May (C) delivers a speech to Conservative Party members. GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Russian journalist dead after St. Petersburg attack

A prominent Russian journalist has died of his injuries six weeks after being attacked in St. Petersburg.

The death Wednesday of 73-year-old Nikolai Andrushchenko was reported by Russian media outlets that cited his lawyer and the editor-in-chief of the Novy Peterburg newspaper.

The state news agency RIA Novosti quoted editor Denis Usov as saying the journalist had been in a medically induced coma since the March 9 attack.

Andrushchenko's attackers have not been identified. Usov has linked the assault to articles in the newspaper about corruption in St. Petersburg.

Andrushchenko was a member of the St. Petersburg city council from 1990 until 1993. He was among the founders of Novy Peterburg, where he made a name for himself writing about human rights issues and crime.

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$0 DOWN
LEASE $143/BW*
LEASE PRICE: $27,720

2017 RIO 4 LX
CASH PURCHASE $13,855*
MSRP $16,355
<$2,500>
TRADING DOLLARS
FINANCE $84/BW*
FINANCE PRICE: $15,395
$0 DOWN
LEASE $86/BW*
LEASE PRICE: $15,395
$0 DOWN

2017 SOUL LX
CASH PURCHASE $18,835*
MSRP $19,335
<$500>
TRADING DOLLARS
FINANCE $108/BW*
FINANCE PRICE: $18,235
$0 DOWN
LEASE $98/BW*
LEASE PRICE: $18,035
$0 DOWN

2017 SPORTAGE LX
CASH PURCHASE $25,435*
MSRP $26,935
<$1,500>
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Public dime could pay for projects in the U.S.

FUNDING

Bill would lift curbs on infrastructure bank proposal

The federal government's proposed infrastructure bank could fund cross-border projects such as bridges between Windsor and Detroit. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A new federal agency designed to fuse public and private dollars to help build infrastructure in Canada could end up building new roads and bridges south of the border — so long as they connect to the Great White North.

The legislation for the Liberal government's proposed infrastructure bank would allow the arm's-length organization to use public money to help bankroll or financially backstop projects that are "in Canada or partly in Canada," provided there's a financial benefit and a physical connection to the country.

The wording means Ottawa could choose to fund projects with the potential to generate revenue for private investors or the government itself — toll roads or bridges, for instance, such as the Gordie Howe span between Windsor and Detroit, which is being financed with both private and public money.

"If in fact a vehicle like the bank can enable projects like that to go ahead more readily, then I think that's positive," said Mark Romoff, president and CEO of the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships.

Romoff said it could also help advance Canadian interests south of the border, particularly at a time when U.S. President Donald Trump wants to leverage private money to help pay for a promised $1-trillion infrastructure program.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BROADCASTING

Fewer Canadians are watching TV: Report

A new report says the number of Canadians cutting the cord on their TV services is expected to increase this year.

The Convergence Research Group estimates in a report released Wednesday that TV subscriptions in Canada will drop by 247,000 this year, up from 220,000 subscriber losses last year.

That would represent an annual drop of two per cent, and the consulting firm says that decline is expected to grow by three per cent in 2019.

The report estimates 3.8 million households or 26 per cent did not have traditional TV services at home last year and projects that will rise to 4.18 million or 28.4 per cent this year. Canada's telecommunications providers have been racing to add next-generation TV services such as streaming to retain TV customers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

VIDEO GAMES

NES Classic, the sequel

Andrew Fifield
Metro | Toronto

Just days after confirming the end of the obscenely popular NES Classic, Nintendo appears to be working on a Super Nintendo follow-up.

According to Eurogamer, "sources close to the company" say the miniature replica will be ready to hit store shelves in time for the holiday season and that planned production of the device was a factor in the NES Classic's unceremonious exit.

Released late last year, the plug-and-play NES Classic came packed with 30 games and was immediately greeted by overwhelming demand. The rapturous reception surprised the company — who reportedly considered it little more than a one-off novelty product — and the system was continually in extremely short supply, giving rise to a robust resale market on eBay.

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CHANTAL HÉBERT ON TRUMP TAKING ON CANADA

Somewhat predictably, no amount of prime ministerial appeasement is turning out to be enough to keep Canada on the good side of the Trump White House.

Ever since last fall's American presidential election campaign, Justin Trudeau has played nice with Donald Trump, routinely bending over backward to avoid taking the new administration head on.

Parsing the prime minister's comments on Trump's eventful first three months one would be hard-pressed to find anything but kind words about the new occupant of the White House.

When the president moved to suspend the American refugee program and to ban citizens from six Muslim majority countries from travelling to the U.S., Trudeau issued a tweet to restate Canada's pro-refugee policy but refrained from openly criticizing the U.S. move.

When Trump cut foreign aid funding for contraception and family planning programs, the Canadian government raised its own contribution but otherwise kept its peace.

Ditto as the American administration confirmed its determination to walk away from the Paris treaty on climate change.

Earlier this month, the prime minister offered Canada's full support for Trump's unilateral decision to launch airstrikes on a Syrian military facility in retaliation for the regime's chemical gas attack on civilians. In the process, Trudeau soft-pedalled his party's long-standing commitment to multilateral international action. A few days later, the prime minister called for the removal of the Bashar Assad regime.

There is plenty of evidence that Trump is, to put it politely, a chameleon-type of politician.

Somewhat predictably, no amount of prime ministerial appeasement is turning out to be enough to keep Canada on the good side of the Trump White House and off the president's ever-changing hit list.

On Tuesday, he lashed out at NAFTA in general and Canadian dairy policy in particular. "In Canada, some very unfair things have happened to our dairy farmers, and others, and we're going to start working on that," Trump told a Wisconsin audience. "NAFTA has been very, very bad. We're going to make some very big changes or we're going to get rid of NAFTA once and for all," he added.

Contrast that with what the president had to say on the heels of his first face-to-face meeting with Trudeau less than two months ago and consider that there were no major public disagreements between the two governments over the interval.

"We have a very outstanding trade relationship with Canada. We'll be tweaking it," Trump opined in mid-February. "We'll be doing certain things that are going to benefit both of our countries."

At the time, that statement was greeted with jubilant relief in some Canadian quarters. That jubilation was somewhat premature.

Anyone professing surprise at the sight of the U.S. president blowing hot and cold on the same issue over a matter of weeks has not been keeping track of Trump's first three months in the White House.

There is plenty of evidence that he is, to put it politely, a chameleon-type of politician. Trump tends to blend his rhetoric to his environment, as often as not to the detriment of consistency.

But if anyone still harboured the delusion that a nascent bond between Trudeau and Trump would shelter Canada from this president's volatile approach to policy-making, this week's developments should have settled the issue.

FRENEMIES Justin Trudeau has been playing nice with Donald Trump since he took office, but there is no shelter from the president's volatility, writes Chantal Hébert. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crafting alliances on Capitol Hill and in the states' legislatures — as Canada has been attempting to do as part of an all-hands-on deck political lobbying operation — may not be as glamorous as spending a night at the theatre with Ivanka Trump but it may yield more reliable results.

So far, Trudeau's velvet glove approach to the Trump administration enjoys widespread support in this country. But that comes with the underlying assumption that the glove is not an empty one and that an iron hand will manifest itself in defence of Canada's interests.

That did happen on Tuesday. In a strongly worded letter, Trudeau's envoy to Washington, David MacNaughton, refuted Trump's contention that Canada's dairy policy was wreaking havoc on American dairy farmers.

Still, up to now Canada's efforts on the U.S. front have unfolded on a rare bipartisan basis. Former prime minister Brian Mulroney has been providing Trudeau with insider advice on American trade dynamics. Conservative interim leader Rona Ambrose has struck a supportive role in her own visits to the U.S., as has Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall, a premier otherwise known as the prime minister's chief provincial critic.

But there are trade issues on which it will be difficult to continue to present a united front as the war of words turns into a full-fledged negotiation. Canada's dairy and poultry supply management system is not far from the top of the divisive list.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

New pot laws must include a pardon for old convictions

Vicky Mochama
Metro

We cannot have a future pot policy that doesn't deal with criminalized pasts.

Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale has said that the new pot legislation will not include any special amnesty for past convictions.

This is a mistake.

The government's proposed legislation follows a public health approach of reducing harm and preventing problematic drug use. But the legislation, which is slated to come into effect by July 1, 2018, cannot just serve future drug users — and businesses, for that matter. It should also serve the health and wellbeing of the young, racialized men and women who are currently in court and in prison on drug charges.

According to the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, nearly 60,000 Canadians are arrested for possessing 30 g or less of cannabis every year — that's nearly three per cent of all arrests. And at least half a million Canadians have a criminal record for possessing that much pot.

In 2013, nearly half of all drug-related court cases involved cannabis, and young people between 12 and 24 were more likely to be arrested for pot than for any other drug.

The Justice Department either doesn't publish or does not track drug-offences by the race and ethnicity of the offender. Anecdotally, however, it's clear that the imagined drug offender is a racialized person.

One only has to hear it from Bill Blair, the Liberal government's point man on the pot file. In his telling, when youth buy marijuana, they get it from "a gangster behind some apartment building" or "a criminal in a stairwell," he told the Toronto Star on separate occasions.

In case the dog-whistle isn't loud enough, Toronto's former top cop is selling the government's pot plan with a racially-charged message.

There is ample data to show that black and white people, on a percentage basis, use marijuana at nearly the same rates. Yet black users are arrested at a vastly higher rate. (Much of this data is American. Yet again we find that data on race is patchy at best in Canada.)

Evidence of this racial arrest gap can be found in our prison populations. From 2005 to 2015, the black inmate population grew by 69 per cent. This increase dovetails with the previous Conservative administration's tough-on-crime legislation that also led to an increase in the imprisonment of women and Indigenous people.

But if compassionate pardons are not part of the new legislation, thousands of Canadians — especially young racialized men and women — already languishing in the criminal justice system will be left behind. A majority of male prisoners struggle with addiction and substance abuse issues.

For the government, a clean slate starts next Canada Day. Many Canadians need that clean slate now.

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We don't *really* know our rivers

EARTH DAY

Water demand and pollution are growing threats: Author

Canada has an incredible wealth of fresh water, much of it in rivers — from rushing giants like the Niagara and Yukon River to the swimming hole in your neighbourhood.

After 10 years studying rivers, Sean Fleming, hydrologist, data scientist and adjunct professor at UBC's department of earth, ocean and atmospheric sciences, has come to a conclusion: we don't know enough about rivers. And if we aren't informed, we can't protect them. Fleming's new book, Where the River Runs: Scientific Reflections on Earth's Waterways, aims to fix that. We asked him what we can do to help rivers run better.

Is there anything in your research that would surprise people who don't know much about rivers?

The example folks in Canada may not be aware of is the Colorado River. The Colorado River Compact was put together in the early 1900s to divide the waters of the Colorado River between different states and Mexico. It was derived on the basis of the data available at that point. As a matter of sheer bad luck, that period of time happened to be one of the wettest periods in several hundred years. That wasn't discovered until the 1970s. Because of that, the Colorado River no longer flows to its mouth. Knowing more about the science of rivers has real, serious implications.

What needs to be done to protect rivers?

One: We need to understand how rivers work. We need better models for simulating what they'll look like in the future, and how climate changes will affect them. That provides the information we need to make decisions. Secondly, reducing needs. Global water demand is expected to increase by 55 per cent by 2050. That's a huge problem, given that a billion people already do not have access to adequate clean water. But there's a silver lining. For example, in the U.S. water demand has stabilized at 1970s levels.

Is it the same story in Canada?

Canada's track record with water management is not the best compared to other western countries. And that's simply because we're really lucky — we've got a lot of empty space and a lot of water.

Vancouver for instance, is a very wet part of the world. It wouldn't seem like you'd ever run into water supply issues, but it's happening, because you've got such a tremendous congregation of people in such a small area, and the water is seasonal. That's going to be a huge challenge.

What can individual people do for rivers?

There's a tremendous amount you can do. There are watershed clean-up days. You can get involved with riparian planting (restoring trees and vegetation around rivers). In terms of your personal choices, watch what you flush down the drain and how you dispose of things like paint. It can help a great deal at the local level.

Do you have a favourite river?

Oh my goodness. Maybe the Cowichan in British Columbia or the Rio Grande in the U.S. southwest. I love the landscapes around both of them. They both present a lot of opportunities and challenges.

SALMON RUN

You have a chapter about how clouds talk to fish. What?

Weather literally transmits data to fish species (living in rivers). When it rains, river levels go up. That affects ecological systems. One example is salmon runs on the west coast. If the fall rains come too late or they're too weak, the river levels will not rise enough for salmon to make a successful spawning run. Conversely, if it's too stormy in the winter, it can excavate the fish eggs out of the creek bed.

Canada has a wealth of rivers, B.C.'s magnificent Fraser River being one of them, but Sean Fleming argues Canadians don't know enough about this type of body of water. ISTOCK

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Gossip RAIDS, AWARDS AND BEAUTY

CRIME

Intruder inside Drake's home only raided the fridge

Authorities say an intruder was arrested at Drake's Southern California house, but the woman apparently did nothing but drink the rapper's water and soda pop. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department says deputies from its Malibu/Lost Hills Station arrested 24-year-old Mesha Collins Monday inside the home of the Toronto-raised rapper. Deputies called to the house found Collins inside a locked room surrounded by opened water and soda bottles from the house. There was no evidence she took anything else or did any damage. She was arrested for entering a residence with intent to steal the victim's property. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AWARDS

Shad is a Peabody Award winner

Rapper Shad's docu-series examining the history of hip hop music has been honoured with a Peabody Award. In the four-part series Hip-Hop Evolution, the former host of CBC's Q walks viewers through decades of memories integral to popular music history. Shad revisits the streets of Bronx and Harlem alongside seminal figures like Afrika Bambaataa, Kurtis Blow and Chuck D. Hip-Hop Evolution was among 12 documentaries selected as distinguished productions by the Peabody jury, which is made up of media industry professionals, media scholars, critics and journalists. They said its music doc winners represented "histories of music integral to American culture." Hip-Hop Evolution debuted last year on HBO Canada and on Netflix outside of the country. Other Peabody documentary winners included Ava DuVernay's 13th, which was produced by Winnipeg-born Howard Barish, and Oscar winner O.J.: Made in America.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HONOURS

Julia Roberts is more than a Pretty Woman

People magazine has named Julia Roberts the "World's Most Beautiful Woman" for a record fifth time. The magazine announced Roberts' selection on Wednesday. The 49-year-old actress has previously claimed the cover spot in 2010, 2005, 2000 and 1991. Roberts, who won an Academy Award for Erin Brockovich, says she is "very flattered" by the experience. People's 28th annual "World's Most Beautiful" double-issue will be on newsstands Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHANNA SCHNELLER **WHAT I'M WATCHING**

25 years later, only the riot gear has changed

THE SHOW: L.A. Burning (A&E)
THE MOMENT: The riot begins

Executive producer of L.A. Burning John Singleton. CONTRIBUTED

April 29, 1992. Four Los Angeles police officers are acquitted of any criminal charges in the beating of Rodney King, even though a videotape was viewed by the world. Disbelieving, enraged protestors flood the intersection of Florence and Normandy streets.

Police try to quell the crowd. Two protestors are arrested. Furious onlookers begin smashing car windows and looting the corner liquor store. Lieutenant Michael Moulin orders his cops to pull out.

Photographer Bart Bartholomew, who is white, takes pictures of the cruisers pulling away. But in a cold second, the crowd turns on him. Someone smashes a two-by-four into his face, breaking his jaw. Neighbourhood resident Tim Goldman escorts Bartholomew to his car and waves away the protesters who jump on its hood. Bartholomew pulls away. But the riot continues for two days.

I lived in L.A. then, and it doesn't feel like 25 years ago; it feels like yesterday. But five separate docs have been made to mark the anniversary. This one, executive-produced by the director John Singleton, interviews participants about then and now.

What's chillingly obvious is that the racial profiling that set the protest aflame hasn't changed – witness the ongoing murders of black men by police. What's changed is the riot gear. Notorious L.A. police chief Daryl Gates grievously underestimated public anger in '92, and sent his cops in unprotected. That's the only mistake that police all over the U.S. have corrected.

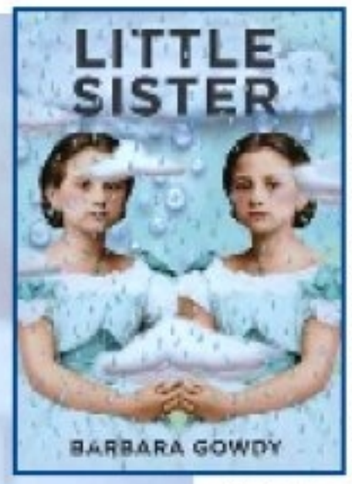
Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

‘What would it be like to be you?’

PERSPECTIVE

Little Sister transports a woman into another body

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada



Little Sister is author Barbara Gowdy’s first novel in a decade. She wrote it while suffering from debilitating back pain, lying down in bed using a reclining chair for her laptop. CONTRIBUTED

Last fall, after Barbara Gowdy discovered a lump in her breast, her younger sister Mary offered to drive her to Toronto’s Prince Margaret Hospital for a series of tests. As Gowdy was filling out forms, Mary suddenly fell to the floor in a seizure, caused by a massive brain haemorrhage. If Mary hadn’t been in that hospital room at that exact moment, feet away from an oxygen tank and doctors to rush her into surgery, she would not have survived. Gowdy — now in remission after radiation and a lumpectomy — says it was her cancer that saved her sister’s life.

Later that fateful day, after undergoing a core biopsy and being reassured that her sister was doing well in another hospital, an exhausted Gowdy came home to a box sitting on her Cabbagetown front porch. The box was labelled “Little Sister,” and for a shocking moment the author forgot that was the title of her much-anticipated new novel, her first publication in a decade.

It would be understandable if Gowdy wrote about the cruel limitations of the human body. On top of the breast cancer, she has suffered 14 years from a mysteriously debilitating chronic back pain that limits her mobility. Most of Little Sister was written lying down in bed using a reclining tray for her laptop, while undergoing a litany of unsuccessful drug therapies that did little more than make her foggy and depressed. But Gowdy’s curiosity about our inner lives runs deeper than skin and bones. Since she can remember, she has asked the fundamental question: “What would it be like to be you?”

Little Sister, which takes place over a week, follows Rose, a 30-something woman who lives a mundane existence running a repertory theatre with her mother, who suffers from progressive dementia. When a series of freak lightening storms hit the city, Rose’s migraine-like symptoms inexplicably transport her inside the body of a stranger named Harriet, who is having an affair with a married co-worker. This erotic experience is a far cry from the dullness of Rose’s own relationship with Victor, an older, serious-minded meteorologist. No wonder Rose becomes almost physically obsessed to re-enter Harriet, who may also have an otherworldly connection to her deceased younger sister.

Gowdy suggests that her ongoing existential preoccupation with how others see the world may be connected with some discomfort she has with her own self. “I’m always curious about how people cope. It seems very touching to me,” she says. “There’s that saying, ‘Walk a mile in my shoes,’ but I was thinking, ‘Walk a mile in my body, spend an hour in my mind.’”

In writing Harriet, who is described as “kinetic” and the opposite of staid Rose, Gowdy purposely held back on exposing the character’s thoughts. She wanted the book’s strange occurrences to remain as much a mystery to readers as they are to Rose, and to avoid a re-tread of the 1999 Spike Jonze movie Being John Malkovich. “I wanted her to inhabit the body more. It wasn’t just ‘what it would be like being you,’ and ending there, it’s ‘what is it like to be you and then come back to me,’” she says.

Over her lauded career and eight books, Gowdy has been dubbed a risk-taker in Canadian literature, whether it’s for exploring the inner worlds of elephants in the Giller Prize-nominated White Bone or for her empathetic portrayal of a necrophiliac in the 1992 story collection We So Seldom Look on Love. But she doesn’t necessarily buy that risk-taking label. Gowdy suggests perhaps it’s because she never writes the same book twice: she inhabits her characters, and then moves on.

“Once I’m done with a certain voice or point or view, I’m really done,” she says.

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

PARENTING

Netherlands’ pursuit of happiness begins with mom and dad

What if the key to raising contented kids lies not in priming our children for success, but rather in encouraging their happiness so they can find their own version of achievement?

That’s the approach embraced by parents in the Netherlands, which is, according to a 2013 UNICEF report, home to the happiest children from among the 26 richest nations in the world.

A new book called The Happiest Kids in the World: How Dutch Parents Help Their Kids (and Themselves) by Doing Less explores what makes the Dutch approach to parenting different. The co-authors, American Rina Mae Acosta and Brit Michele Hutchison, both married Dutch men and are raising their kids in the Netherlands.

I spoke to Acosta recently about what defines the Dutch style of parenting.

You write that Dutch parents have a healthy attitude toward their kids, that achievement doesn’t necessarily lead to happiness, but that happiness can cultivate achievement. Why is that such an important distinction?
Us modern parents all throughout the world, especially in America, we believe that in order to be happy in life, you have to be successful. But the Dutch have realized that happiness comes first before anything else. And when I’m talking about happiness I’m not talking about children being spoiled and entitled. I’m talking about children who are self-aware, who are able to be independent and who learn to make their own decisions. And children who are allowed to be children and to figure out their own passions in life early on and allowed to be who they are.

Apparently Dutch babies get more sleep. What is the deal there? How do they do it?
What most parents can actually do is simply have what the Dutch call the two “Rs” — rest and regularity. The basic idea is — especially for newborns, babies and toddlers — to create a calm, predictable environment with a certain set schedule of sleep, play and eat.
And once you have those established, you can help regulate their sleep.

Michele Hutchison, centre, and co-author Rina Mae Acosta, right, each raise children in the Netherlands. ROSA VAN EDEREN

Dutch children are apparently among the least to feel pressured at school. Why is that?
It’s just a whole different perspective on what a child is, I believe. While we obviously have to educate children, in the Netherlands they realize that what’s most important in preschool is to teach children how to play. That includes focusing on their social and emotional development. That’s a critical foundation to build. Then you can start teaching them academically at six, seven, eight. Versus in America: I’m afraid that we’ve forgotten the importance of play. Rather than focusing on that, there’s a lot more focus on academics. But a lot of education researchers agree that an immature brain is not ready yet to take it all in. Interesting the children who are allowed to develop at their own pace are the ones who are allowed to have that intrinsic motivation to succeed.

It’s interesting that while the Netherlands offers several types of high school, there doesn’t seem to be much gnashing of teeth over which one a child goes to.
No, the Dutch realize that not every single person is meant to go to university. Not everyone is meant to be a doctor, a lawyer or a high-level professional. Some are actually meant to become nurses or teachers or chefs. And they realize that every child has their own special talent or special interest, so why is there a need to make every child conform to the status quo?

What do you most wish that parents living in Canada, or other parts of the world with similarly intense approaches to raising kids, will take away from this book?
Please be kind to yourself as a parent. Know that you doing your best is good enough. If you’re more forgiving of yourself and accepting of all your mistakes, and also congratulate yourself for the things you are doing really well, the children will see that.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

metro HOME

Your essential daily news

White Garden unveiled at Kensington Palace to honour 20th anniversary of Princess Diana's death

MEET THE CONDO

Settle in the city's best neighbourhood

CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

Attainable Homes partnered with Highfield Residential to create 26 apartment-style condo units. Half of the homes are sold through the non-profit's attainable homeownership program. Moderate-income Calgarians can apply to the program to receive a gifted down payment in the form of an investment partnership.

Housing amenities

Varsity 4818 is a modern three-storey apartment building designed by Nyhoff Architecture. This project features underground parking, bike racks and private decks for all residents. Suites boast granite kitchen counters, stainless steel appliances and laminate flooring.

Location and transit

Dalhousie C-Train station is just a short walk while the University of Calgary is very close, making this a convenient location for faculty and staff. Public, Catholic and French immersion schools ranging from elementary to high school can be found within the community itself as well as parks.

In the neighbourhood

Named Calgary's best neighbourhood by Avenue Magazine in 2012, there's no shortage of amenities nearby with Market Mall, Northland Mall and Varsity Plaza offering shopping and food. The larger Shaganappi Village is also a popular venue with its specialty shops, banking, gas and more. KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO

NEED TO KNOW

What: Varsity 4818
Builder: Highfield Residential in partnership with Attainable Homes Calgary
Architect: Nyhoff Architecture
Location: 4818 Varsity Dr. NW
Buildings: Three-storey wood frame
Models: Two bedroom, one bathroom
Sizes: From 763 to 831 square feet
Pricing: From $275,000 to $299,000
Status: Move-in ready
Sales centre: Attainable Homes Calgary office at 1010 6th Ave. SW
Phone: (403) 265-9935
Website: AttainYourHome.com

REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

1 STILL SELLING

Riviera on The Bow by DaVinci Homes: With 31 apartment-style condominiums in Parkdale by the river, this condo project is perfectly located next to nature but remains inner city. Visit the sales centre at 3320 3rd Ave NW.

2 STILL SELLING

Lusso by Hearthstone Developments: This Bridgeland project features 20 high-end luxury units on the hill above the community making for breathtaking views. One, two and three-bedroom units with unobstructed views starting in the low $400,000's. Visit the sales centre at 605 7th Ave. NE.

3 STILL SELLING

i.D. Inglewood: Don't miss out on this chance to live in the heart of historic Inglewood where on any given day you can find people out walking, eating and shopping. Located at 1526 9 Ave. SE, contact the team to arrange a viewing at id-inglewood.ca.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO

metro SPORTS

23-time Olympic gold medallist Michael Phelps says he's waiting till the worlds this summer to see if he gets "that itch again" to return to swimming

Leafs let up on gas

ROUND 1 SHIFTS TO D.C.

Oshie, Wilson tally two each for Washington

If the playoffs is a series of adjustments and readjustments, then it's next move, Maple Leafs.

The Washington Capitals changed their line pairings — the first team to do so in the series — and it paid off big time in a 5-4 win over Toronto that tied this Stanley Cup best-of-seven series at two games apiece.

Tom Wilson, promoted from the fourth line to the third, scored twice as a desperate Washington team reasserted itself and reclaimed home-ice advantage.

Wilson saved a goal at one end, and went on to score at the other as the Toronto native — he grew up in the Yonge-Eglinton area — came back to haunt his childhood team for the second time this series. He also scored the overtime winner in Game 1.

T.J. Oshie also had two — including the winner — while Alex Ovechkin also scored for Washington.

Tyler Bozak, Auston Matthews, James van Riemsdyk and Zach Hyman scored for the Maple Leafs, in a series that's now a best-of-three.

There isn't a Leaf or Leafs fan out there who wouldn't have accepted those terms when the puck dropped on the season back in October, but today it feels as if they might have squandered a chance to make a much bigger playoff splash.

Capitals centre Nicklas Backstrom and Leafs goalie Frederik Andersen watch T.J. Oshie's game-opening goal hit the back of the net on Wednesday night. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

GAME 4 In Toronto

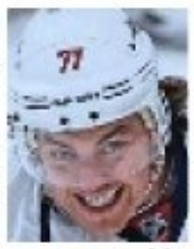
5	4
Capitals	Maple Leafs

They played like the young, inexperienced squad they are. They were a step behind, a bit lost and confused in their own zone for most of the game, digging a hole that goals from Matthews and Bozak in the third period couldn't get the Leafs out of.

The Capitals drew from their reservoir of playoff experience in dominating Game 4. The Caps were at their defensive best killing a Leafs two-man advantage for the first 1:53 of the third period.

Game 5 is Friday at the Verizon Center in Washington.

Maple Leafs coach Mike Babcock had made a comment about how his club should not, under any circumstances, duplicate the effort of the Edmonton Oilers, demolished 7-0 by the San Jose Sharks on Tuesday night.



T.J. Oshie

Tom Wilson

GETTY IMAGES

The Sharks, like the Capitals a veteran team, were desperate to even their series at two games apiece.

"One team relaxes and feels pretty good about themselves, talks to everybody and they all tell you how great they're doing, and the other team gets prepared," said Babcock.

Turns out his fears were founded. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

OBITUARY

Officials say ex-Patriot hanged himself in cell

Former NFL star Aaron Hernandez hanged himself in the prison cell where he was serving a life sentence for murder, officials said Wednesday, the same day his ex-teammates on the New England Patriots visited the White House to mark their Super Bowl victory.

His death came just days after the 27-year-old was acquitted in a second murder case.

Guards found Hernandez just after 3 a.m., Correction Department spokesman Christopher Fallon said. The one-time tight end was pronounced dead at hospital about an hour later.

Hernandez had been housed in a single cell in a general population unit at the maximum-security state prison in Shirley, Mass. He tried to jam the cell door to prevent guards from opening it and hanged himself with a bedsheet tied to a window, Fallon said.

Aaron Hernandez

GETTY IMAGES

Fallon said officials had no reason to believe Hernandez might take his life, and if they had had any such worries, he would have been transferred to a mental-health unit.

Later Wednesday, U.S. President Donald Trump welcomed the Patriots to the White House. Star quarterback Tom Brady did not join his teammates as the White House said it was notified the star QB was dealing with a "personal family matter." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADA'S SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Lanny McDonald was blindsided by honour

Lanny McDonald never saw it coming.

The Stanley Cup champion and Hockey Hall of Fame member was among nine individuals named for induction into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame on Wednesday. The announcement caught McDonald by surprise because for so long all of his achievements were recognized by hockey-specific organizations.

"I thought it was one of the guys pranking me when this came about but all of a sudden today happens and you realize, 'Oh my gosh,'" said McDonald.

"It's so cool. I'm so honoured and thrilled. What a great class to go in with." THE CANADIAN PRESS

TOP ATHLETES

Other athletes being inducted include Olympians Carol Huynh, Simon Whitfield and Cindy Klassen, golfer Mike Weir.

Senators right-winger Bobby Ryan, left, is congratulated by Derick Brassard after his goal in Boston on Wednesday.

CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SENATORS LEAD SERIES 3-1

Ryan nets second straight winner

Bobby Ryan played the hero again, scoring the winner at 5:49 of the third period as the Ottawa Senators beat the Boston Bruins 1-0 on Wednesday night to grab a 3-1 lead in their Eastern Conference quarter-final series.

After scoring the winner 5:43 into overtime on Monday to seal the Senators' 4-3 win in Game 3, Ryan poked the puck past a diving Tuukka Rask after Erik Karlsson set him up on an intentionally wide slap shot just inside the blue line.

GAME 4 In Boston

1	0
Senators	Bruins

Craig Anderson made 22 saves in his fourth career playoff shutout for the Sens. Rask stopped 26 shots for the Bruins.

The Senators can clinch the series at home Friday in Game 5. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Liriano leads Jays past Sox

Francisco Liriano combined with three relievers on a six-hit shutout as the Toronto Blue Jays blanked the Boston Red Sox 3-0 on Wednesday night at Rogers Centre.

Liriano allowed four hits and a walk over 5-1/3 innings for his first win of the season and Kevin Pillar had three hits for the Blue Jays, who improved to 3-11. The teams will play the rubber match of the three-game series Thursday afternoon.

Rick Porcello absorbed the loss for the Red Sox (9-6). THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cox released by Riders after alleged domestic incident

The Saskatchewan Roughriders have released defensive back Justin Cox over an alleged incident of domestic violence.

Regina police say a 24-year-old man named Justin Cox was charged with assault causing bodily harm "as the result of investigation into an allegation of intimate partner violence." They allege a 23-year-old Regina woman sustained apparent injuries consistent with a physical assault reported Sunday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Sex sounds disrupt match

An outdoor professional tennis match in Florida came to a brief halt amid sounds of loud sex.

Frances Tiafoe was about to serve to Mitchell Krueger during their Tuesday night match in the Sarasota Open when he paused and flashed a smile of disbelief over the sound of a woman moaning in pleasure. Broadcaster Mike Cation later said the sounds were coming from an apartment nearby. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serena pregnancy official, wasn't in Sarasota

It's another love game for Serena Williams: She is pregnant — and, based on the timeline she offered, she already was when she won the Australian Open.

A spokeswoman for Williams, Kelly Bush Novak, wrote in an email to The Associated Press on Wednesday: "I'm happy to confirm Serena is expecting a baby this Fall."

Earlier in the day, Williams posted a photo of herself on Snapchat with the caption "20 weeks." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Picking apart illegal screens

RAPTORS
GAME 3 PREVIEW

Casey calls for more physical play in light of lax officiating

> Every screen in the NBA is illegal.
> Malcolm Brogdon

Raptors guard Kyle Lowry goes down between Bucks Thon Maker and Malcolm Brogdon on Tuesday at Air Canada Centre. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

It is a basic tenet that all NBA players and coaches and fans should realize, and it's a raw rookie point guard who espouses it with conviction.

"Every screen in the NBA is illegal," the Milwaukee Bucks' Malcolm Brogdon contends. "I learned that the hard way this season. Every one is illegal. No one is in the wrong."

The legality or illegality of screens has been a topic of conversation in the Bucks-Toronto Raptors playoff series that heads to Milwaukee for Game 3 on Thursday night.

The Raptors believe the Bucks set moving screens as part of their routine offensive sets, and coach Dwane Casey is demanding his players respond with their own physical play.

Casey and company were particularly miffed at Milwaukee's Matthew Dellevadova because they thought he got away with setting a handful of illegal screens to free teammates for shots and drives in the series opener. The coach said he made his players aware of it and wants them to push the envelope themselves.

"They (the officials) feel like they are legal but you look at them in slow time and, believe me, they are moving, they are grabbing, they are holding," Casey said. "But again, that's his MO and he set a precedent with it and they are not calling it. Now we have to make sure we set screens the same way and we show the officials those videos."

But the inherent trouble with asking teams to be more physical in setting screens before a game, and thinking about stretching the interpretation of the rules is that no two games are officiated exactly the same.

There is enough wiggle room in the interpretation of the rules — how long a screen-setter has to be immobile, how long he has to "hold" the screen after contact, the angle at which the offensive player takes to the screen — that the variance between referees is significant.

A quick whistle can land a player in early foul trouble, a more relaxed interpretation of moving screens gives teams a chance to be more aggressive all over the floor.

It's not knowing at the start of the game that's confusing to all.

"Everybody has their own thinking about screens, about physicality," Milwaukee coach Jason Kidd said. "There's always different referees, they see things differently, their interpretation is different, so for us, we've just got to stay focused on playing basketball and everything else will take care of itself." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

GAME BY GAME

Game 1
Bucks 97, Raptors 83
Game 2 in Toronto
Raptors 106, Bucks 100
Game 3 in Milwaukee
Thursday, 6 p.m.
Game 4 in Milwaukee
Saturday, 1 p.m.
Game 5 in Toronto
Monday, 5 p.m.
Game 6 in Milwaukee*
Thursday, April 27, TBD
Game 7 in Toronto*
Saturday, April 29, TBD
*IF NECESSARY

IN WASHINGTON

Wiz take 2-0 series lead

Bradley Beal took over in the fourth quarter with 16 of his 31 points, including a late three-pointer, helping the Washington Wizards beat the Atlanta Hawks 109-101 on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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PSYCHICS

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Juventus knocks out Barça after stalemate

Gianluigi Buffon kept a clean sheet over two legs against Barcelona. GETTY IMAGES

Juventus put on a masterclass of defensive football to reach the Champions League semifinals on Wednesday, frustrating Lionel Messi and earning a 0-0 draw against a Barcelona side hoping for another miraculous comeback.

The second-leg stalemate sealed a 3-0 win on aggregate and came six weeks after Barcelona's historic 6-1 thrashing of Paris Saint-Germain, when the home side became the first team to ever overturn a 4-0 loss in the competition. The Italian visitors made sure there would be no more miracles at Camp Nou by displaying all the poise and experience that PSG had sorely lacked in the previous round.

True to the Italian tradition of defending an advantage, goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon had little work to do until late in the game, as Massimiliano Allegri's side expertly absorbed Barcelona's passing attack that ultimately produced few good scoring opportunities.

And when Messi did get free inside the area, Barcelona's all-time leading scorer squandered both his chances to spark a fightback.

Meanwhile, rising teenage star Kylian Mbappe and resurgent forward Radamel Falcao scored early goals as free-scoring Monaco beat Borussia Dortmund 3-1 to reach the Champions League semifinals on Wednesday.

Dortmund trailed 3-2 from the first leg of the quarterfinal in Germany and conceded twice inside 20 minutes — meaning it needed to score three times to have a chance. Attacking midfielder Marco Reus pulled one back in the 48th minute.

But substitute Valere Germain, just after replacing Mbappe, added the third in the 81st minute to seal a 6-3 victory on aggregate. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Healthy ALT (Avocado Lettuce Tomato)

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Avocado adds a satisfying creaminess to this diner classic. Sorry bacon, no hard feelings, okay?

Ready in 5 minutes
Prep Time: 5 minutes
Serves 2

Ingredients
- 4 basil leaves, torn
- 1/2 avocado, pitted and mashed
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1 tomato
- 1 tsp olive oil
- 1/2 a head of Boston bibb lettuce
- 4 pieces of multigrain bread, toasted
- sea salt

Directions

1. Cut tomato and lay out on a plate. Coat with olive oil and sprinkle with sea salt.

2. Meanwhile, mash avocado in a medium bowl and then add lemon juice and torn basil. Mix until smooth.

3. Toast bread and then smear about a tablespoon and a half of the avocado spread onto the bread. Finish by adding tomato slices and a few pieces of lettuce.

4. Cut in half or in quarters and serve with some cucumber slices.

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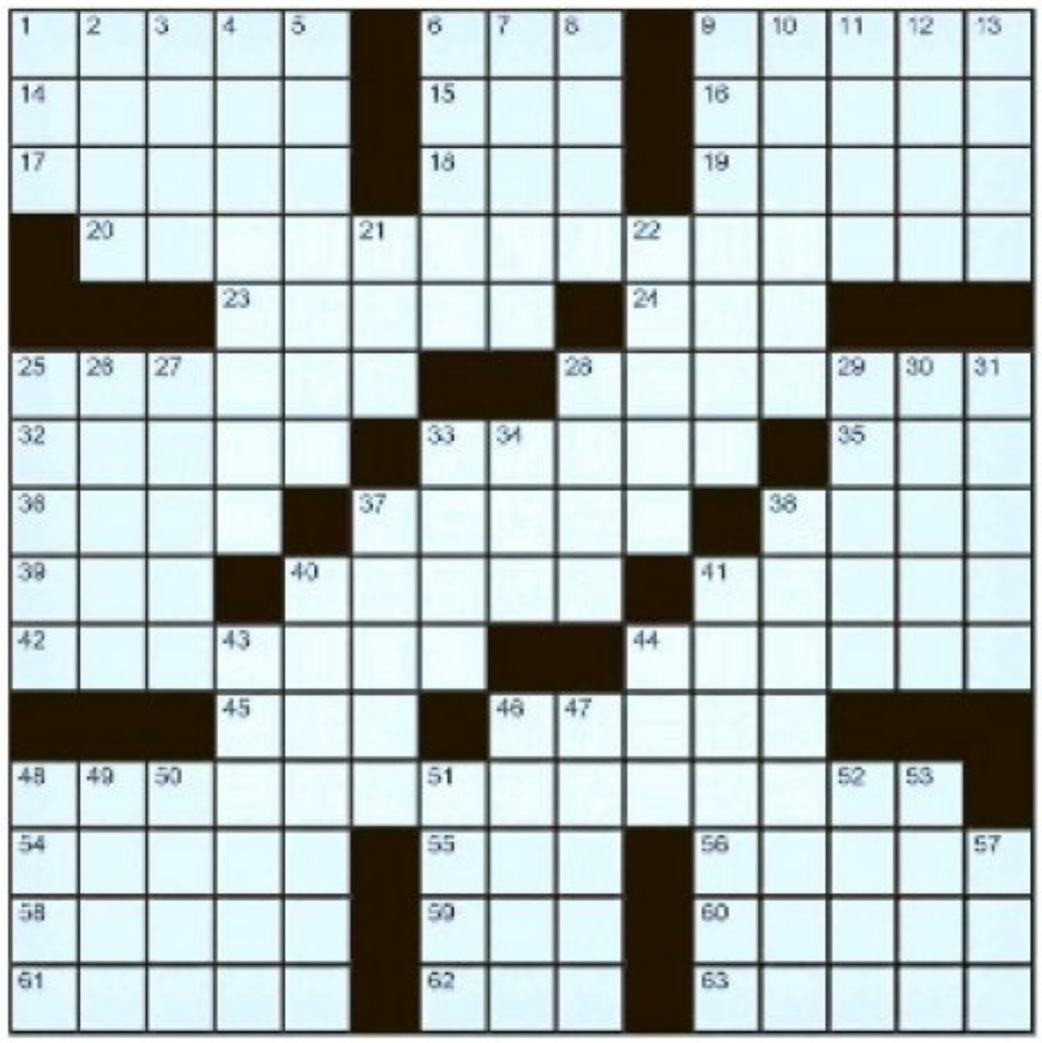
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Mell Lazarus comic strip
6. Noted botanist Mr. Gray
9. Sean of "Will & Grace"
14. __ closet
15. Mr. Aykroyd
16. Cherish
17. "Fortune is painted blind, with a muffler __ her eyes..." - Shakespeare
18. Backyard bug
19. Bona fide
20. Honoured Member of the Hockey Hall of Fame nicknamed 'The Big M': 2 wds.
23. Broadway star Ms. Menzel
24. Sundial number
25. Airport arrivees
28. Classic TV show for The Cartwright Family
32. Moray catcher, maybe
33. Piece of parsley
35. "That hurts!"
36. Candid pic-takers for tabloids
37. Really request
38. Ms. Turner of "The Sea Chase" (1955)
39. Informally seat, as in a theatre
40. Television pioneer, John Logie __ (b.1888 - d.1946)
41. __ eclipse
42. Artsy style of blouse or skirt
44. Mr. Sutherland
45. Submachine gun variety
46. Poseur
48. The Tragically Hip's current Juno-winning album: 3 wds.
54. Feminine inner self, in Jungian†psychology
55. Nero's 1101
56. Machu Picchu inhabitant
58. __ circle (Those in the know)
59. Ottawa, e.g.
60. 1960s rocker's jacket style
61. Heaps
62. Compass pt.
63. Small caves

DOWN
1. Commerce degree, shortly
2. Carl who composed the cantata "Carmina Burana"
3. Berth
4. Glacier's deposits
5. Revising person
6. "Frankly, my dear, I don't give __." - Rhett Butler
7. Yemen's capital city
8. Literary collection, briefly
9. Dividing
10. Fitting-here flower
11. Cartoon television Bear
12. Country singer Mr. Church
13. Mr. Rogen of movies
21. '__' __ for Kingston
22. Egg-shaped
25. Get vitalized: 2 wds.
26. Charter
27. 1st Greek letter
28. Mr. Garrett of "Everybody Loves Raymond"
29. Spiral-horned antelope
30. Districts-related
31. Grant
33. Incision
34. __ capita
37. "__ Room" (2002) starring Jodie Foster
38. Denizen of Ontario's 'Forest City'
40. Marketplaces like Istanbul's famous one
41. Dining on Cream of Mushroom or Vegetable Noodle or Lentil
43. Added up the numbers
44. Before-E's spelled out letter
46. Type sizes
47. Straight-billed marsh bird
48. Put a stamp on, then send the letter
49. AD part
50. One of Christopher Columbus' ships of 1492
51. RCN ship designation
52. Parrot
53. Store
57. Greek alphabet letters

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a wonderful day for enjoying the company of friends, as well as the company of groups to which you belong. People are in a happy mood, and they are glad to see you.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will be briefly high-viz today, but this attention will be favourable — so no worries. Enjoy your good press, because bosses, parents and VIPs will support you today.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You're excited about big travel plans. Similarly, some of you are just as excited about big plans for further training or education. Yes, you are going to expand your world!

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is an excellent day to discuss shared property, taxes, debt and inheritances, because all parties will be fair and generous to each other. (And you likely will come out smelling like a rose.)

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is an excellent day to deal with partners and close friends. It's also a good day for business and working with members of the general public.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Work-related travel is likely today. Co-workers are supportive; plus, meetings, classes and groups will be positive experiences for you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is a lovely day to enjoy the company of others — especially children — because you are in a warm, loving and playful mood. Expect to meet someone from another culture.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Matters related to home and family will be positive today. This also is a good day for a family business. A gathering at your home will be a success.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It's easy for you to be upbeat and positive today, because you believe in yourself! This is important because for Sagittarians, optimism is a survival issue.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Business and commerce are favored today. Any financial arrangements you initiate will lead to future profits.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Today the Moon is in your sign, dancing with Jupiter, which is why you feel joyful and content. People will be happy to meet you and listen to your positive views.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You are content today. You realize that appreciating what you have is the key to happiness. (Negativity is wanting things to be different from the way they are.)

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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6			9		1			2
	3						1	
8	2						4	3
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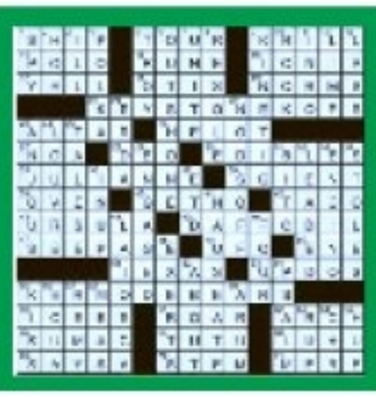
YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



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8	4	1	9	2	5	7	3	6
4	2	8	7	9	3	5	6	1
3	6	7	1	5	2	9	4	8
1	5	9	8	6	4	2	7	3

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